**DECLARATION - USA PATENT APPLICATION**

As below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name;

I believe I am an original, and joint inventor of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled **METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PERFORMING ATOMIC FORCE MICROSCOPY MEASUREMENTS** the specification of which was filed on February 28, 2002 as Application No. 10/091,226;

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above;

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the patentability of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56;

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Codes § 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below.


PROVISIONAL APPLICATION

APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING (day/month/year)	PRIORITY CLAIMED UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 119(E)
US 60/272,249	28/02/2001	YES

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful, false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Full name of first inventor: Wilfried Vandervorst

Dated: May 6, 2002

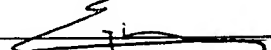
Inventor's signature 

Residence : Stuivenberglaan 106, 2800 Mechelen, Belgium

Citizenship : Belgian

Post Office Address: Same as Residence.

Full name of second inventor: Pierre Eyben

Dated: 2/5/2 Inventor's signature 

Residence: rue Charlemagne 138, 4020 Luik, Belgium

Post Office Address: Same as Residence

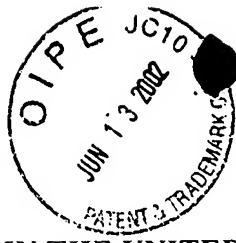
Citizenship : Belgian

Send Correspondence To:

Knobbe, Martens, Olson & Bear, LLP

Customer No. 20,995

IMEC239.001AUS



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Vandervorst et al.)
)
App. No. : 10/091,226)
)
Filed : February 28, 2002)
)
For : METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR)
PERFORMING ATOMIC FORCE)
MICROSCOPY MEASUREMENTS)
)
Examiner : Unknown)

ESTABLISHMENT OF RIGHT OF ASSIGNEE TO TAKE ACTION
AND
REVOCATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

United States Patent and Trademark Office
P.O. Box 2327
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Sir:

The undersigned is empowered to act on behalf of the assignee below (the "Assignee"). A true copy of the original Assignment of the above-captioned application from the inventors to the Assignee is attached hereto. This Assignment represents the entire chain of title of this invention from the Inventors to the Assignee.

I declare that all statements made herein are true, and that all statements made upon information and belief are believed to be true, and further, that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful, false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. § 1001, and that willful, false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, or any patent issuing thereon.

The undersigned hereby revokes any previous powers of attorney in the subject application, and hereby appoints the registrants of Knobbe, Martens, Olson & Bear, LLP, 620 Newport Center Drive, Sixteenth Floor, Newport Beach, California 92660, Telephone

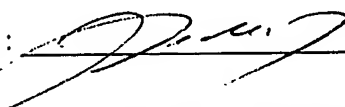
App. No. : 10/091,226
Filed : February 28, 2002

(949) 760-0404, **Customer No. 20,995**, as its attorneys with full power of substitution and revocation to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office connected herewith. This appointment is to be to the exclusion of the inventor(s) and his attorney(s) in accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 3.71.

Please use **Customer No. 20,995** for all communications.

Interuniversitair Microelektronica Centrum(IMEC)

Dated: May 8, 2002

Signature : 

Name: _____

Prof. Gilbert DECLERCK
President

Title: _____

Address: Kapeldreef 75
3001, Leuven
Belgium

Prof. Gilbert DECLERCK
President

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041702

Application No.: 10/091,226
Filing Date: February 28, 2002

ASSIGNMENT

WHEREAS, we, the undersigned, have invented certain new and useful improvements in a **METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PERFORMING ATOMIC FORCE MICROSCOPY MEASUREMENTS**, for which we have filed an application for Letter Patent in the United States as Application No. 10/091,226 on February 28, 2002.

AND WHEREAS, Interuniversitair Microelektronica Centrum (IMEC), (hereinafter "ASSIGNEE"), with its principal place of business at Kapeldreef 75, 3001 Leuven, Belgium, desires to acquire the entire right, title, and interest in and to the said improvements with respect to the United States of America, its territories and possessions.

NOW, THEREFORE, in light of good and valuable consideration, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, we, the said inventors, do hereby acknowledge that we have sold, assigned, transferred and set over, and by these presents do hereby sell, assign, transfer and set over, unto the said ASSIGNEE, its successors, legal representatives and assigns, the entire right, title, and interest throughout the world in, to and under the said improvements, and the said application and all provisional applications relating thereto, and all divisions, renewals and continuations thereof, and all Letters Patent of the United States which may be granted thereon and all reissues and extensions thereof, and all rights of priority under International Conventions and applications for Letters Patent which may hereafter be filed for said improvements in any country or countries foreign to the United States, and all Letters Patent which may be granted for said improvements in any country or countries foreign to the United States and all extensions, renewals and reissues thereof; and we hereby authorize and request the Commissioner of Patents of the United States, and any Official of any country or countries foreign to the United States, whose duty it is to issue patents on applications as aforesaid, to issue all Letters Patent for said improvements to the said ASSIGNEE, its successors, legal representatives and assigns, in accordance with the terms of this instrument.

AND WE HEREBY covenant and agree that we will communicate to the said ASSIGNEE, its successors, legal representatives and assigns, any facts known to us respecting said improvements, and testify in any legal proceeding, sign all lawful papers, execute all divisional, continuing and reissue applications, make all rightful oaths and generally do everything possible to aid the said ASSIGNEE, its successors, legal representatives and assigns, to obtain and enforce proper patent protection for said improvements in all countries.

Date: May 6, 2002

Signature: 
Wilfried Vandervorst

Date: 2/5/2

Signature: 
Pierre Eyben